(e) what corrective measures Government have taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT [DR. (SHRIMATI) RITA VERMA]: (a) As per information provided by the State, Indira Mahila Yojana was implemented in 14 Blocks and 9869 women's self-help groups had been formed. In March 2001, the erstwhile Indira Mahila Yojana has been recast and renamed 'Swayamsidha', which is to be implemented in 38 Blocks, including 13 erstwhile IMY Blocks.The State Action Plan for Swayamsidha has been approved; 2 Block Projects have been approved by the National-level Project Sanctioning Committee; and power to approve residual 36 Block Projects has been delegated to the State-level Steering and Review Committee.

(b) Under erstwhile Indira Mahila Yojana, periodic progress reports were tabulated and monitored. However, a countrywide rapid evaluation by Department of Women & Child Development and Planning Commission in 1997-98 was limited to 8 States, which did not include Andhra Pradesh.

Currently, monitoring of approval of State Action Plans and Block Projects under Swayamsidha is being undertaken.

(c) to (e) Residual 36 Block Projects have not been approved under Swayamsidha by the State-level Steering and Review Committee.

The State has been directed to expedite the same in a time-bound manner.

Basic education for children in Rajasthan

1107. SHRI NANA DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there are 9.48 lakh children in rural areas and 1.17 lakh in urban areas in Rajasthan, who are still deprived of basic education;

(b) whether the children who do not have access to schools in Rajasthan, are in the age group of 6 to 14 years;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) what steps are being taken by Government to reach education at the residence of children?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT [DR. (SHRIMATI) RITA VERMA]: (a) to (c) As per *"Shiksha Darpan Survey, 2000"* conducted by Government of Rajasthan, about 9.48 lakh children in rural areas and 1.17 lakh children in urban areas, in the age group of 6—14, are not yet enrolled in schools. This is attributed to various socio-economic reasons and lack of access facilities in sparsely populated habitations where schools could not be opened under the eligibility norms of the State Government.

(d) The State Government has formulated various strategies to address the issue of out of school children, which include launching of *"Shiksha Apke Dwar"*compaign under which it is proposed to undertake awareness building activities, opening *"Rajiv Gandhi Swarna Jayanti Pathshalas"* in remote villages and habitations setting up Alternative Schooling Centres where formal schooling facilities are not available within a distance of 1 km., organising bridge courses for adolescent girls, adoption of Madarsas for providing formal primary education to children from minority community and providing assistance to individuals/voluntary organisations for opening *"Shiksha Mitra"* Centres. Government of India is also supplementing the efforts of the State Government for achieving Universal Primary Education through the schemes of District Primary education Programme (DPEP), Lok Jumbish Project, Shiksha Karmi Project and Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA).

Standard of primary education

† 1108. SHRI BASHISTHA NARAIN SINGH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that standard of primary education is constantly declining;

(b) whether any survey at national level has been conducted in this regard; and

(c) if so, the findings thereof?

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† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.